



Maureen Brummett, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

One Central Square • Plainville, CT 06062

Phone 860-793-3210 • Fax 860-747-6790

www.plainvilleschools.org

brummettm@plainvilleschools.org

February 26, 2018

Dear Education Committee:

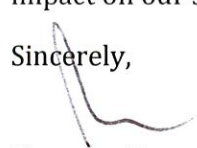
Last week at the CABA/CREC Legislative breakfast, Representative Bill Simanski described [H.B. No. 5171](#) (RAISED) AN ACT PROHIBITING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FROM MAKING RESCISSIONS OR OTHER REDUCTIONS TO THE EDUCATION COST SHARING GRANT DURING THE FISCAL YEAR by Purpose of the bill: Prohibit the Governor from making rescissions to a town's education cost sharing grant during the fiscal year.

I have been the superintendent of Plainville Community Schools for two years. During my brief tenure, I have twice experienced the unprecedented impact of mid-year cuts to our Education Cost Sharing grant. During this current school year, we have lost \$1.9 million dollars in funding. The impact has been devastating for the Plainville community and has resulted in a cut to our programs and the leveling of a supplemental tax bill to our citizens to make up for this shortfall.

We are now in the process of seeking approval of our 2018-19 Board of Education budget before our Town Council. Due to the experiences of the past two years, both Board of Education and Town officials are understandably skeptical about whether the new ECS funding formula will go into effect. Most recently the governor has already proposed modifications that will again be detrimental to Plainville Community Schools. As a direct result of this uncertainty, the Board recently voted down the proposed School Resource officer out of fear of inadequate ECS funding. The day after this cut, the tragic school shooting in Parkland, Florida occurred, which has left our school administrators very concerned about school safety. The Board also voted to cut more than 10 positions out of next year's budget resulting in the layoffs of numerous staff members.

I urge you to approve H.B. No. 5171 as the ongoing unpredictability of ECS funding is having a grave impact on our students' educational programs and our attempts to enhance school security.

Sincerely,


Maureen Brummett, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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